## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)
	) RM-11699
Encryption of Amateur Radio Communications	)

## **COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR RULEMAKING**

THE UNDERSIGNED, James Edwin Whedbee, pursuant to Sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules and regulations respectfully offers these comments in support of the Petition for Rulemaking and its underlying motives, as follows.

- [1] The undersigned is a graduate-degreed, FEMA-certified disaster and emergency manager as well as an amateur radio operator.
- [2] The undersigned agrees that HIPAA, FERPA, and other privacy statutes/regulations would require deployed amateur radio stations to protect communications in aid of disaster relief and recovery. Many jurisdictions, to protect themselves, prefer encryption of communications for tactical, privacy, and safety reasons. Therefore, the proponent of this rulemaking is correct.
- [3] The undersigned prefers the Commission grant the rulemaking petition's request, at the earliest practical moment.

Respectfully submitted,

ISI James E. Whedbee

June 25, 2013

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